



proud past, promising future

# Douglas Carter Fisher Neighborhood Park Preliminary Concept Plans Comment Summary

Comment Period: September 30-October 15, 2009

This is a summary of the verbal and written comments from the September 30, 2009 public meeting, and the written comments submitted through the project Web page October 1-15, 2009. This summary reflects a range of opinions, and is not intended to present a word-for-word transcript. Comments about issues outside the scope of the park development project have been brought to the attention of the appropriate departments or agencies.

A proposed concept plan for the park will be developed based on neighborhood feedback, program needs, project funding and site requirements.

Staff presented four preliminary concept plans to neighbors for input:

- [Figure 8 Concept Plan](#)
- [Curvy Concept Plan](#)
- [Arc and Tangent Concept Plan](#)
- [Wavy Concept Plan](#)

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## Access:

- Install fencing around perimeter.
- This park needs more access points from other directions/neighborhoods.
- Don't restrict informal access to the park from the stormwater facility on the north.
- Need to ensure that neighbors can safely walk or ride their bikes to this park with adequate sidewalks and bike lanes on adjacent roads.
- Remove the existing guardrail from the end of NE 54<sup>th</sup> Street. It is unattractive.
- Include an access point from the east across the ditch to better accommodate park visitors who will enter the park from there anyway.
- Work with adjacent property owner to acquire an access easement from NE 53<sup>rd</sup> Street.
- Fencing around the perimeter is not needed.
- Include handicapped parking spaces.

## Trail Alignments:

- Add a perimeter trail to the Wavy Concept Plan (several people requested this).
- Would prefer bikes not be allowed on the paved areas to prevent conflicts with pedestrians and parents with strollers.
- Please include a loop trail of some sort in the final plan.
- Use a natural surface trail, like the surfacing shown in the Wavy Concept Plan.

- Like the loop trail included in the Figure 8 Concept Plan.
- There's not enough room in this park for a perimeter trail.
- Maximize available green space and skip the trail.
- Don't like the paved trail in the Figure 8 Concept Plan.
- Reduce the amount of lawn in the Curvy Concept Plan and add a loop trail.
- Like how the plans propose to keep the wetland natural.
- Disappointed that only one plan included a loop trail. We need safe places to walk for exercise in this neighborhood.

### **Playground:**

- Build a cover over the playground to provide year-round use.
- Include a spinning piece called a Supernova in the playground.
- Swap the playground with the seating/wall area in the Wavy Concept Plan for better visibility from NE 54<sup>th</sup> Street (several people suggested this).
- Don't include a sandbox in the playground. They are messy and difficult to maintain.
- Would like to see a natural log play area in addition to traditional play structures.
- Like the Wavy Concept Plan, but would minimize the size of the playground.
- Concerned that the playground would be underwater during fall and winter in the locations proposed in the Figure 8 and Curvy concept plans.
- The best location for the playground is the one in the Arc and Tangent Concept Plan because this is the driest spot on the property.
- The playground in the Arc and Tangent Concept Plan has the poorest visibility from NE 54<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Prefer traditional playground equipment to the natural playscapes.

### **Landscaping and Trees:**

- Natural environment should be preserved and the park integrated into it as much as possible.
- Include a variety of trees and shrubs to attract birds and animals.
- Include more shade trees around the playground.
- Plant wildflowers in the grassy areas.
- Don't kill all the lupines that bloom in the field currently.
- Like the large open lawn area in the Curvy Concept Plan.
- Not enough open lawn area in the Wavy Concept Plan.

### **Multi-Purpose Sports Court:**

- Do not like the sports court included in the Figure 8 Concept Plan.
- Would supporting including a sports court like in the Figure 8 Concept Plan.

### **Other Park Amenities:**

- Include a dog waste bag dispenser.
- Consider adding pedestrian-level "lollipop" lighting inside the park to enhance safety.
- Include a restroom or portable toilet in the plan.
- Include environmental interpretive signs or a kiosk.
- Prefer that the entrance of the park remain open and visible – no ornamental shade trees.
- Would support the future gazebo included in the Figure 8 Concept Plan.
- Don't like the main park entrance in the Figure 8 Concept Plan.
- Don't like the picnic area located so far from the playground in the Curvy Concept Plan. It would be hard for parents to keep an eye on their children.
- Like that the picnic area is close to the playground in the Arc and Tangent Concept Plan.

- Like the entryway in the Arc and Tangent Concept Plan.
- Provide space in the park for a community garden and chicken coop.

**General:**

- The Wavy Concept Plan best incorporates the natural environment.
- Concerned that the Wavy Concept Plan would make this park more of an “attraction” that could bring people from outside the neighborhood (cars, etc.).
- Create a three dimensional design schematic to help neighbors visualize what the park would look like on the ground.
- Build this park as soon as possible.
- Like the Arc and Tangent Concept Plan the best.
- Design the park to prevent vandalism.
- Concerned that motorized vehicles and horseback riders will use this park. Please post signs prohibiting them.
- Ensure that after hours use does not occur.
- Like the Figure 8 Concept Plan the best.
- Like the layout of the Figure 8 Concept Plan, but would prefer it not have the loop trail.
- Would prefer the use of pervious pavement.
- Combine Figure 8 Concept Plan with the Wavy Concept Plan.
- Prefer the use of natural feeling elements to help the park blend in with the environment.
- Really concerned about safety and vandalism in the park because it is isolated. Please include lighting. Even if it does attract after hours dog walkers, this will help put more eyes on the park.
- The Wavy Concept Plan is overdeveloped.
- Consider holding small meetings at neighbors’ houses to discuss park plans (like a “coffee klatch”).
- The Wavy Concept Plan is very attractive, but concerned it may be too much. Develop it in phases or scale it back, so we can get something sooner rather than later.

Neighbors who attended the public meeting were invited to indicate which of the four plans they liked, and which features within each plan they liked, using round stickers. The results of the informal “dot survey” was:

**Figure 8 Concept Plan**

Overall concept – 2 dots  
 Entrance – 1 dot  
 Gazebo – 1 dot  
 Loop trail – 1 dot

**Curvy Concept Plan**

Overall concept – 2 dots  
 Open lawn area – 1 dot  
 Picnic plaza – 1 dot

**Arc and Tangent Concept Plan**

Overall concept – 1 dot  
 Entrance – 1 dot  
 Open lawn area – 1 dot  
 Playground – 1 dot

**Wavy Concept Plan**

Overall concept – 5 dots  
 Secondary entrance – 2 dots  
 Main entrance – 1 dot  
 Boardwalk – 2 dots  
 Ornamental rock walls – 2 dots  
 Interior planter – 1 dot  
 Playground – 4 dots  
 Southern plantings – 2 dots  
 Ditch – 1 dot

END